



News Release

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West Valley City Mayor Mike Winder Celebrates City's Top 10 Great Stories of 2010

West Valley City – In the Mayor's December Video Report, West Valley City Mayor Mike Winder highlighted what he feels were the top ten great stories in Utah's second largest city in 2010:

10- West Valley City Celebrated 30 Years as a City: The anniversary of incorporation included fireworks and the Utah Symphony, the return of community theatre with a terrific production of *Peter Pan*, a luncheon with past and present mayors and city council members, and an outstanding West Fest celebration.

9- UTOPIA awarded \$16.2 million in broadband stimulus funding: of which \$6.5 million will go towards extending the publicly owned fiber optic lines throughout West Valley City in the coming years. City leaders invited Google to be part of the network, and worked hard to turn around and grow this important infrastructure of the 21st Century.

8- Improved citizen outreach: WVC-TV was launched on Comcast's Channel 17, the city website, and YouTube, an online service request tracker debuted, we had our first State of the City address by the mayor, "Milk with the Mayor" was launched as a monthly open door meeting, the monthly Mayor's Video Report started, and summits were held with ethnic, education, and religious leaders.

7- Terrific achievements by city businesses: We saw five West Valley businesses ranked among the 100 fastest growing businesses in Utah, including #3 Green River Capital. CR England received the "Energy Efficiency Leader Award", USANA received a Clean & Beautiful Award, and Winder Farms celebrated 130 years in business. Our businesses continue to fight and thrive through a tough economic climate.

6- Anti-discrimination ordinances passed: We became the third city in the state to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in matters of housing and employment. None can be fired or evicted for these reasons in West Valley City.

5- Widening of 3500 South completed, with state's first dedicated lane for Bus Rapid Transit: The MAX Bus Rapid Transit line along 3500 South now carries over 4,100 riders daily!

4- Granger High Groundbreaking: The city's oldest high school is on track to be the state's newest high school as the old school is demolished and a new one built on the same site, as well as the adjacent Granger Park.

3- Weathering fiscal storm: Despite sales tax revenues down 17% and the Great Recession, the city was able to balance the budget without any layoffs and pay off the debt on the West Ridge Golf Course and City Hall. All employees—including elected officials—took a week without pay to help make it all happen.

2- E Center naming rights: After 12 years of searching for a naming rights sponsor, the city found the perfect fit, as the E Center became the Maverik Center! The arena housed the Days of '47 Rodeo for the second year, the Utah Blaze arena football returned, and big shows included Justin Bieber and the Rockettes.

1-Valley Fair Mall: This was the year the mall made major strides in transforming its look, bringing in new stores and restaurants, and growing from 600,000 square feet to 800,000 square feet. It saw traffic jump 57% versus last year, police calls half of 2007 levels, and the new Olive Garden being named #1 new Olive Garden in the country. Most importantly, it helped boost the city's image and becomes a powerful catalyst for future developments to the west as Utah's second largest city develops a more cohesive downtown.

The Mayor's Video Report can be viewed at www.wvc-ut.gov/mayorvideo.

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